

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

IO-04 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-02 OMB-01 /042 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:NEWARNER:SCT

APPROVED BY S/NM:DHERNST

S/NM:DECOHEN

ARA:APSHANKLE

ARA/CAR:JBURKE

A/AID:MEWAMPLER

DEA:WSHANLEY

----- 019092

R 062201Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNARM, JM

SUBJECT: OPERATION BUCCANEER

FOR AMBASSADOR GERARD FROM S/NM

1. PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE FOR NEA NARCOTICS CONFERENCE, AMBASSADOR VANCE DISCUSSED WITH S/NM AND ARA CURRENT STATUS OF OPERATION BUCCANEER ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

2. AS WE ENTER FINAL SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO PHASE-OUT OF USG HELICOPTERS IN MID-DECEMBER, IT STILL SEEMS USEFUL FROM OPERATIONAL STANDPOINT TO MOVE BASE OF ERADICATION OPERATIONS TO MONEAGUE, BRINGING HELICOPTERS AND TROOPS CLOSER TO "COCKPIT" AREA. IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH VANCE AND BARTELS ON OCTOBER 21, YOU INDICATED THAT MOVE TO MONEAGUE WAS STILL CONTEMPLATED BY GOJ EVEN THOUGH TIMING WAS UN-

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CERTAIN AS OF THEN, AND ONE RECOURSE MIGHT BE TO ESCALATE

THIS QUESTION TO THE PM. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CURRENT VIEWS ON OUTLOOK IN THIS RESPECT.

3. SIMILARLY, WOULD APPRECIATE UPDATE ON OUTLOOK FOR RELOCATING THE RADAR SITE AND ALSO PROPOSAL TO MOVE NORTH COAST COMMAND POST. WE UNDERSTAND VARIOUS TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES HAVE COME UP AND WONDER WHAT OUTLOOK IS FOR RESOLUTION THESE PROBLEMS.

4. WE CONTINUE FEEL THAT AN EVALUATION OF BUCCANEER WOULD BE USEFUL SOMETIME BETWEEN NOW AND ITS COMPLETION IN MID-DECEMBER AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR FURTHER VIEWS AS TO HOW THIS MIGHT BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED. IF WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE IN SUCH EVALUATION, PLEASE LET US KNOW. ASIDE FROM EVALUATION OF BUCCANEER ITSELF, SUCH ASSESSMENT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL IN LOOKING AHEAD AT POST-BUCCANEER SITUATION TO SEE HOW GOJ COULD CONSOLIDATE GAINS MADE DURING BUCCANEER AND WHAT SUPPORT FROM USG MIGHT BE DESIRABLE.

5. IN LIGHT FOREGOING, WE NOW THINK LATIN AMERICAN INTER-AGENCY NARCOTICS COMMITTEE (LAINCC) REVIEW OF BOTH FY 1975 PROGRAM AND FY1976 PROPOSALS (KINGSTON 3512) CAN BEST TAKE PLACE LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY 1975 FOLLOWING PHASE-OUT OF OPERATION BUCCANEER AND AFTER ALL CONCERNED HAVE DEVELOPED CLEARER IDEA OF POST-BUCCANEER SITUATION AND CONTINUING NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS. INGERSOLL

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